

Mayor D. Dwayne Tuggle called a special meeting of the Amherst Town Council to order on August 30, 2023, at 7:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers of the Town Hall at 174 S. Main Street.

It was noted that a quorum was present as follows:

P	D. Dwayne Tuggle	P	Andra Higginbotham
P	Janice N. Wheaton	P	Michael Driskill
P	Sharon W. Turner	P	Douglas Thompson

Also present were the following staff members:

Sara E. McGuffin	Town Manager
Kelley Kemp	Town Attorney
Vicki K. Hunt	Clerk of Council

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss short term rentals in the R-1 and R-2 districts.

Town Manager McGuffin gave a brief report on the matter. At its meeting on April 12, 2023, Council approved an amendment of the zoning ordinance to allow for short term rental as a special use permit in the R-1 and R-2 districts along with the adoption of a short term rental policy, with the policy to be reviewed within twelve months from its adoption. Council then requested staff to put the policy in proper format stating the approved standard zoning conditions for short term rentals, which was presented by staff and subsequently denied by Council on May 10, 2023.

Council discussion included whether additional conditions should be placed on short term rentals, whether short term rentals be a permitted use or remain a special use in the R-1 and R-2 districts, and whether conditions should be by ordinance or policy.

Ms. Turner and Mr. Driskill were requested to prepare and present to all council members a document containing proposed revisions of the short term rental conditions and the matter was deferred to September 28, 2023, for further discussion.

At 7:58 PM, Town Attorney Kemp read a resolution to authorize closed meeting, as follows:

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Amherst desires to discuss in Closed Meeting the following matter(s):

- Discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, namely emergency services, or of the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body, specifically real property owned by the Amherst Lifesaving Crew.

WHEREAS, pursuant to: §2.2-3711 (A)(3) of the Code of Virginia, such discussions may occur in Closed Meeting;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Amherst Town Council does hereby authorize discussion of the aforesated matters in Closed Meeting.

After the reading, Ms. Turner made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Higginbotham to approve the resolution and go into closed session.

The motion carried 5-0 via the roll call method as follows:

D. Dwayne Tuggle		Andra Higginbotham	Aye
Janice N. Wheaton	Aye	Michael Driskill	Aye
Sharon Turner	Aye	Douglas Thompson	Aye

A copy of the Resolution is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

At 7:59 PM, pursuant to the Resolution, Town Council convened in closed session.

At 8:31 PM the meeting reopened to the public.

Clerk of Council Hunt read the following closed session certification to Council:

Do you certify that to the best of your knowledge (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under Title 2.2, Chapter 37 of the Code of Virginia, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed session was convened were heard, discussed, or considered in the session?

Responses via the roll call method were as follows:

D. Dwayne Tuggle	Yes	Andra Higginbotham	Yes
Janice N. Wheaton	Yes	Michael Driskill	Yes
Sharon Turner	Yes	Douglas Thompson	Yes

There being no further business, on motion of Mr. Thompson seconded by Mr. Higginbotham, the meeting adjourned at 8:31 P.M., until September 13, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

The motion carried 5-0 as follows:

D. Dwayne Tuggle		Andra Higginbotham	Aye
Janice N. Wheaton	Aye	Michael Driskill	Aye
Sharon Turner	Aye	Douglas Thompson	Aye

D. Dwayne Tuggle, Mayor

Attest: _____
Clerk of Council

TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF AMHERST

MOTION: Sharon Turner

SECOND: Andra Higginbotham

Wednesday, August 30, 2023

Regular Meeting

RE: AUTHORIZE CLOSED MEETING

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Amherst desires to discuss in Closed Meeting the following matter(s):

- Discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, namely emergency services, or of the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body, specifically real property owned by the Amherst Lifesaving Crew.

WHEREAS, pursuant to: §2.2-3711(A)(3) of the Code of Virginia, such discussions may occur in Closed Meeting;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Amherst Town Council does hereby authorize discussion of the aforestated matters in Closed Meeting.

Adopted this 30th day of August 2023.

D. Dwayne Tuggle, Mayor

ATTEST:

Clerk of Council